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Examination of Mr Ducoin

June 25th

Mr John Baptist Ducoin was sworn.

Examination by Mr Slidell.

On the 16th of April 1839 I was porter at the Mint & have continued so since, my place was in the weighers room.

I was present when Casas made his deposite & at the weighing of the deposite. I assisted at the weighing. An entry was made by Mr Dimetry immediately after in the weigh book. I observed the entry myself I did not observe the figures of the entry, the amount which Casas deposited was $200: I know that such was the amt because I counted them at the time before weighing. I took the money out of the scales when the money was weighed & put in a tin pan & I put the number 100 in the tin pan I recollect that the number put in was 100

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The money remained in the tin pan about 10 or 15 minutes in the weighers room & was then taken away by Mr Seabie who is a work-man in the Melter & Refiners department, he took it to Mr Maxwell's department.

I do not know that the deposite ever came back to the weighers, office; & the last I saw of it was when Mr Seabie took it away.

I remained in the office the balance of the day. I continued in the weigher's office during the balance of the working hours of that day. From my own knowledge I am not aware that this deposite ever came back to the weighers office.

I do not recollect that any other bullion was weighed that day, after Casas' was weighed. I think that after it was delivered to Seabie, that it was kept in the Melter & Refiners office & that it never came back to the weighers office.

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I think that it is not possible that the Casas deposite could have come back to the weigh-room on the same day. I do not recollect of having weighed any more bullion on that day after the Casas deposite was made & weighed. It was 2 or 3 days after Casas had made his deposite that I first heard of any difficulty between the Melter & Refiner & the weigher in relation to it. I had not heard of any difficulty before. I was present at the conversation between Mr Maxwell & Mr Dimetry about the Casas deposite 2 or 3 days after the deposite was made; I was present a few minutes & did not hear the whole conversation.

All that I can now recollect is that Mr Maxwell told Mr Dimetry that he had committed a fraud. I do not recollect what Mr Dimetry said in reply. I recollect that Mr Bradford

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came out of his office & walked between Mr Maxwell & Mr Dimetry & I went out of the room without looking at any books. I recollect from my own knowledge & without any conversations that the number was 100. I recollect that Mr Dimetry himself gave me the number & I put it in the pan. I gener=ally assist Mr Dimetry in weighing, & when I do not so assist it is because I am sent on errands by the Treasurer. I did not hear Mr Dimetry find any fault with the Melter & Re=finer on the day Casas made his deposite. It was 2 or 3 days after that I heard Mr Dimetry find fault with the Melter & Refiner about the number 100. I was present when Casas came to get paid for his deposite when I gave the money myself to Mr Dimetry. Mr Dimetry gave it himself to Casas; the money was small change it was 5 or 10 cent pieces I do not recollect

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which. I think they were put up in rolls the amount was $200 I counted the number of bundles & then handed them to Mr Dimetry I do not recollect whether Mr Dimetry counted it after I handed it to him. I remember that Mr Dimetry handed the same packages to Casas that I handed to Mr Dimetry. Mr Dimetry is in the habit of depending on my counting. I think that I would have recollected if Mr Dimetry had counted the money after I had handed it to him. I think I could not have made a mistake in the counting of the money.

I told Mr Dimetry when I handed the money to him that there were $200. Mr Dimetry told me get this money, told me to get $200. I do not think that Casas counted it before taking it away. There are never figures put on the bundles. I have never seen any bundles with figures on them.

Here the witness declared

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that he had been mistaken in the amount.

I recollect that I gave Casas 21 packages of $10 in 10 cent pieces & $2 in 10 cent pieces. About a month ago I had a memorandum of it but do not now know what I have done with it. I made the memorandum about 14 or 15 days after Mr Dimetry had a difficulty with Mr Maxwell

I was induced to take down the memorandum from a conversation I had had with Mr Dimetry who asked me if I recollected what had taken place, I answered that I did I then took down the memorandum without being requested to do so by Mr Dimetry

Examined on behalf of Mr Bradford

At the commencement of my examinations I stated that I had given $200. I did so because I felt embarrassed, but on recollecting that I had taken a memorandum I collected myself. On my memorandum

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I had written 21 packages of $10 each & $2 in dimes the packages were all rouleaus of $10 each. For a while I was in the habit of making rouleaus of the 5 cent pieces, but lately, that is within a month I have put them up in packages because the rouleaus took up too much time.

I have shewn my memorandum to Mr Brimond within a week or 2 & have never shewn it to any one else.

On the form of the rouleaus being exhibited the witness said that he recollects having delivered 21 such & $2 in dimes to Mr Dimetry who gave them to Casas. Casas put the $2 in his pocket & the rouleaus in his handkerchief. I heard Casas deposition last night. I am sure that there never was a rouleau containing $9.50 & thus marked. All the rouleaus of dimes were put up by me at that time.

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Examined on behalf of Mr Maxwell

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There were rouleaux a-
-mounting to about $500 when
Casas came & they were on the
table. I counted the money
brought by Casas. I believe
Casas' deposite was of $212. I
am not sure I counted the
deposite myself, do not recol-
-lect whether it was $200 or
$212 I kept no memorandum
of it I know Casas by sight
× I have seen him several times
I recognised him when he
came in last night. When I
made my memorandum I
× put it in my pocket book.
I have looked at it several
times since; I did shew it
to Mr Dimetry before putting
it away in my pocket book—
I never told Mr Dimetry
that I ~~should~~ had made a memoran-
-dum.

had made.

Conversing with Mr
Brimont on the subject of
the deposite I exhibited my
memorandum to him—
Brimont did not take it,
but he read it—

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Quest. Is it not possible that you may have been mistaken in the amount of the loose change — may it not have been $1.75 instead of $2.

Ans. No I am sure that I was not mistaken. Mr Dimitry may have made a deduction, of this I know nothing.

Examined by Mr Slidell

Quest. Do you think that it would have been possible that you counted out for D. Casas $2 & 30cts in small change?

Ans. I counted $2 exactly.

Quest. Are you sure that Mr Dimitry gave to Mr Casas exactly the same sum that you counted out?

Ans. Yes

I certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the testimony given by Mr Ducoin before Thomas Slidell Esq on the 25th of June 1839.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name & affixed

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the impress of my seal of office at
New Orleans, on this 8th of August 1839

Horatio Davis
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